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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/689,873	10/21/2003	Craig C. Mateer	035809-0101	3347

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EXAMINER

TRAN, KHOI H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3651

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/689,873	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MATEER, CRAIG C.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Khoi H. Tran	<b>Art Unit</b> 3651	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE 06/08/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
**KHOI H. TRAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |



### **DETAILED ACTION**

The request filed on 06/08/2005 for a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on parent Application No. 10/689,873 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.

#### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 23 and 24 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The claims do not further limit the claimed invention of providing a method for managing the transportation of baggage for passengers. For example, providing a boarding pass to a passenger does not further limit the scope of transporting baggage to the airport.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 21, 29, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In regards to claim 21, the scope of the claim cannot be ascertained from "integrated service within operations at the remote property". It is not distinct what is the range of the "within operations" Applicant is referring.

In regards to claim 29, the scope of the claim cannot be ascertained from "integrated service within operations at the remote property". It is not distinct what is the range of the "within operations" Applicant is referring. It is not known which "federal agency approval standards" Applicant is referring.

In regards to claim 33, the scope of the claim cannot be ascertained from "integrated service within operations at the remote property". It is not distinct what is the range of the "within operations" Applicant is referring.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush et al. 6,512,964.

Quackenbush '964 discloses a system and method for remotely arranging the transportation of baggage for passengers per claimed invention. The system comprises a network that provides access to a travel reservation and information server (Figure 3) from any location. From this server, user can purchase airline tickets and arrange for remote baggage pick up by a ground delivery operator (GDO). The remote pick up location includes hotel area. Upon baggage pick up, i.e. from the hotel, the GDO confirms that the baggage owner possesses proof of purchased ticket (normally includes flight itinerary) and personal identification via a client computer that connects

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with said network and server. The GDO then tags the baggage with a scannable tag and delivers the baggage to a screening facility, and subsequently to the airplane. It is obvious that the service provided by the GDO is an integrated service within operations at the remote property, i.e. hotel, if the remote property also provides GDO service. Quackenbush '964 column 8, lines 58-62, indicates that the GDO service could be provided from any establishment.

In regards to claims 27 and 28, if Quackenbush '964 remote property happens to be a hotel, it is obvious that bellhop, valet, concierge, and security services will be provided.

In regards to claims 29 and 32, it is obvious that the GDO services meet federal agency approval standards for common carrier check-in services in order for the baggage to be delivered to the airport and to the carrier.

In regards to claim 30, if Quackenbush '964 remote property happens to be a hotel, it is obvious that bellhop, valet, concierge, security services will be provided.

In regards to claims 24 and 33, Quackenbush '964 discloses all elements per claimed invention as explained above. However, it is silent the printing step for the boarding pass and baggage identification.

Nevertheless, It would have been obvious for a person with ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have provided to Quackenbush '964 with the printing step because it facilitates the physical manifest of the boarding pass and baggage tag. It is also obvious that any confirmed airline passenger would be provided with a boarding pass in order to board the destined plane.

In regards to claim 37, it is obvious that the passenger baggage could be arranged to be pick up less than 12 hours from flight departure.

6. Claims 22, 31, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush et al. 6,512,964 as applied to claims 21, 29, and 33 above, and further in view of Yamazaki 5,793,639 or in view of Mekata 4,984.

Quackenbush '964 discloses all elements per claimed invention as explained in paragraph 5 above. However, it is silent as to the specific of Quackenbush '964 client computer being part of a kiosk.

Yamazaki '639 and Mekata '984 disclose a computer terminal in the form of a modular kiosk.

It would have been obvious for a person with ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have made Quackenbush '964 client computer part of a kiosk because it facilitates a modular housing for the client computer, as shown by Yamazaki '639, or Mekata '984.

7. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quackenbush et al. 6,512,964 in view of Manabe 6,594,547.

Quackenbush '964 discloses all elements per claimed invention as explained in paragraph 5 above. However, it is silent as to the specific of the baggage scannable tag being in the form of a barcode.

Manabe '6,594,547 discloses of a commonly well-known scannable barcode for a baggage tag.

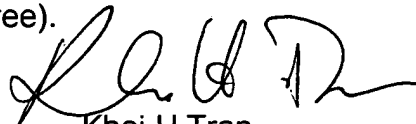
It would have been obvious for a person with ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have provided Quackenbush '964 scannable tag with a barcode because it facilitates it provides a commonly well known scannable baggage tag, as shown by Manabe '547.

**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khoi H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-6919. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene Crawford can be reached on (571) 272-6911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Khoi H Tran  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3651